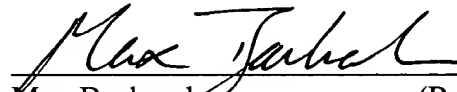


II, and III would not impose a "serious burden" on the Examiner, and respectfully request that the restriction of the claims be reconsidered and withdrawn. Should the Examiner disagree, Applicants request that at least the claims of Groups I and II, claims 1-25 and 28-30, be searched and examined together.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 3, 2002


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Enclosure